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NOTES AND NEWS

FRENCH CORRESPONDENCE

At this time, when our countrymen are so eager to gain closer acquaintance with France, there must be among our teachers and students of French many who would welcome a chance to form personal relations by an exchange of letters with modern language instructors and pupils on the other side of the ocean. Such an opportunity is offered by a plan recently set afoot by M. Ferdinand Buisson, editor of the *Manuel Général de l'Instruction primaire*, published by the Librairie Hachette at 79 Boulevard Saint-Germain in Paris. M. Buisson, who occupies a foremost place among the educators of our day, is known to the world as the organizer of the present admirable system of primary instruction in France. His project, outlined in the *Manuel Général*, has met with an enthusiastic response at home, and he has already received a considerable number of letters from men and women desirous of corresponding with Americans occupied in linguistic work. Some of these are interested primarily in a comparison of ideas, methods, and results; with others the chief concern is practice in English composition. All, however, are animated by a friendly impulse to tighten the bonds of mutual esteem which unite two congenial nations. In general, it is expected that each writer shall use the language of his or her correspondent, who shall offer corrections and suggestions; but the conditions can of course be adapted to the preference of individuals. Americans, young or old, who wish to join in this enterprise are invited to address themselves either directly to M. Buisson or to the author of this note.

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SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED

The Texas Chapter of the "Order of the Sons of Herman" has increased its former appropriation of \$1,200, which was devoted to the distribution of prizes to deserving students of German in the University of Texas and the five Normal Colleges, to \$1,750. Of this fund, \$250 is to be awarded to one graduate student, and

\$125 each to two seniors in the University of Texas. The sum of \$1,000 is to be equally distributed in the form of \$100 scholarships to students in the four Normal Colleges and the College of Industrial Arts, at Denton.

The Committee appointed at the last meeting of the Grand Lodge to administer this fund has made the following appointments in the College of Arts, University of Texas: Miss Mary Felsing, fellowship of \$250; Miss Angela Neibuhr, scholarship of \$125; Miss Selma Raunick, scholarship of \$125.

The following were awarded \$100 each: Southwest Texas Normal at San Marcos—Miss Clara Willett, Miss Adele Fresenius.

West Texas Normal at Canyon—Walter Buecher, Miss Margaret A. Gunther.

Sam Houston Normal at Huntsville—Miss Hulda Sprain, Miss Wilma Westerman.

College of Industrial Arts at Denton—Miss Nora Ernst.

There being no application from the North Texas Normal College at Denton, no awards for students of that institution were made. Applications for the Academic year 1918-19 should be submitted before March 15, 1918, to Professor W. E. Metzenthin, Austin, Texas.

This national association of teachers of Spanish organized last April in New York is receiving enthusiastic support from every section of the country, an indication of the enthusiasm and interest for the study of Spanish in the schools and colleges of the United States. The membership has already reached 500. The temporary officers for the year 1917 are: President, Mr. Lawrence A. Wilkins of De Witt Clinton High School, New York; First Vice-President, Professor Rudolph Schevill of the University of California; Second Vice-President, Professor John D. Fitz-Gerald, of the University of Illinois; Third Vice-President, Professor Charles Phillip Wagner of the University of Michigan; Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Alfred Coester, Commercial High School, Brooklyn, New York. Mr. Archer M. Huntington of New York and Mr. Juan C. Cebrián of San Francisco have been elected permanent honorary presidents. Various committees have been appointed to prepare a constitution, nominate officers for the first regular year, 1918, etc. At the April meeting the president of the tempor-

ary organization was authorized to appoint the editors of the organ of the association, *Hispania*, and during the summer the editorial staff has been named. *Hispania* will be a quarterly journal of some seventy pages a number, and will be devoted to the interests of all High School and College and University Teachers of Spanish. The regular issues will begin in February, 1918. An Organization Number will appear soon, which will contain editors' announcements, a letter of Menéndez Pidal, a copy of the constitution and other important matters.

The editors of *Hispania* are the following: Editor, Professor Aurelio M. Espinosa of Leland Stanford Junior University; Consulting Editors, Professors John D. Fitz-Gerald of the University of Illinois and J. D. M. Ford of Harvard University; Associate Editors, Professor Alice H. Bushee of Wellesley College, Professor George T. Northup of the University of Chicago, Professor G. W. Umphrey of the University of Washington, Professor J. Geddes, Jr., of Boston University, Mr. Percy B. Burnet, head of Modern Language Department, Manual Training High School, Kansas City, Mo.; Mr. Joel M. Hatheway, Commercial High School, Boston; Mr. Lawrence A. Wilkins, Head of Department of Spanish, De Witt Clinton High School, New York, and Mr. George W. Hauschild of Manual Arts High School, Los Angeles.

Among the special and contributing editors of *Hispania* will be Ramón Menéndez Pidal and Rafael Altamira of Madrid, Spain; Ramón Jaén of the University of California; Mr. Alejandro Quijano of Mexico City; Professor Federico de Onís of Columbia University; Professor Northup of the University of Chicago; Professor Fitz-Gerald of the University of Illinois, and others.

The new association will unite the scattered forces of teachers of Spanish in the United States for common work and co-operation and should do much to better the teaching of Spanish in our schools. We await the Organization Number with great interest. —*Modern Language Bulletin*, California.

The attention of the readers of the JOURNAL is called to the specially good Walter number of the *Monatshefte* published in October. It contains in addition to the reminiscences of Walter's work a number of brief articles that teachers should read. Copies may be obtained by sending 25 cents to the editor, Max Griebisch, National German-American Teachers' Seminary, Milwaukee, Wis.